

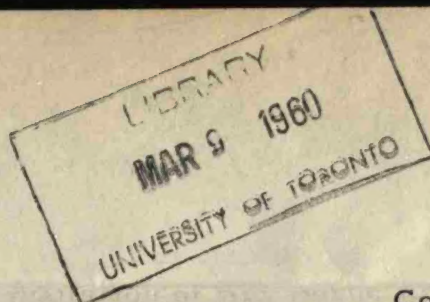
The

NEWSLETTER

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

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No. 1. Spring, 1955.



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Editor: Rev. George Boyle,
Victoria University,
Queen's Park, Toronto 5

Executive:

Louis Blake Duff, LL.D., President
G. Malchelosse, 1st Vice-President
Miss Florence Murray, 2nd Vice-President
Miss Donalda Putnam, Secretary-Treasurer
Claude Aubry, Associate Secretary

Council:

Miss W. Barnstead - to 1955
Miss M. Mercier - to 1955
B. Amtmann - to 1956
B. Peel - to 1956
N. Harlow - to 1957
Miss S. Egoft - to 1957

For some time librarians, archivists and collectors in Canada have desired a medium for the exchange of information on collections and items and for the expression of ideas on matters of bibliographical interest. In an attempt to meet this need it has been decided to issue a bi-annual Newsletter. We take great pleasure in sending forth this first issue which contains some of the information and suggestions garnered through the questionnaire distributed to members some months ago. We wish to thank those whose replies have made this publication possible. We invite those who have not yet returned their completed questionnaires to do so in time for the Autumn Issue. Further, members are invited to keep the editor informed of collections and items acquired from time to time, and also to forward him any information which they consider of interest to other members that these may be included in further Newsletters.

1955 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Canada will be held in Saskatoon on Thursday June 23rd, 1955, at 6:15 p.m. It will take the form of a dinner meeting, the place to be announced later in the Canadian Library Association programme at the Convention. Non-C.L.A. members may secure reduced railroad fares to the Convention by applying for an Associate Membership to the Canadian Library Association, 46 Elgin Street, Ottawa, Ontario.

MINUTES OF THE 1954 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Canada was held in Toronto on November 25th, 1954, at the University Club. The meeting took the form of a dinner at the gracious invitation of Dr. Lorne Pierce. The president, Dr. W. Kaye Lamb was in the chair with 23 members present.

The report of the treasurer was read and adopted. Letters and telegrams were read from several members of the Society, regretting their absence and sending good wishes to the annual meeting.

The president then gave an informal talk on the work of the Society, and what could be done for the future:

1. He expressed the feeling of the meeting at Dr. Pierce's generosity to the Society. He mentioned in particular the gift to members of the Ryerson Imprint, compiled by Dr. Wallace.

2. He spoke of the increase in books published in Canada as illustrated by *Canadiana*. In 1952 it comprised 259 pages of entries and in 1954, 610 pages.

3. In speaking of bibliography, he felt that there was a great deal of work to be done. There was a market for small and accurate bibliographies, especially of Canadian imprints. He suggested that the Society publish a regular *Bibliographical Review* to take note of work being done in this field. A publication such as this could also act as an exchange centre for views and information. He felt this could be published under the imprint of the National Library and the Bibliographical Society of Canada.

4. He reviewed the history of the Society's reprints and facsimiles and announced that the new publication, the *James Evans Hymnary*, was at the printer's

5. In speaking at the Annual Meeting he reminded the members that it was usually held at the time of the C.L.A. But his need not be so. A centre could be picked every year. The idea of having papers read at a meeting could be explored and more than one meeting could be held a year.

The meeting was then thrown open for general discussion. Publishing and membership were discussed with the idea that one was contingent on the other. The suggestion of a membership drive was given to the incoming executive. It was decided to hold the next Annual Meeting at the time of the C.L.A. in Saskatoon.

Dr. Wallace moved the report of the Nominating Committee as follows:

President: Dr. Louis Blake Duff, 18 King St. Welland, Ont.
1st Vice-President: Mr. G. Malchelosse, 995 Blvd. St. -Laurent,
Montreal.
2nd Vice-President: Miss Florence Murray, 7 Heath St. E.
Toronto.
Secretary-Treas: Miss Donalda Putnam, Provincial Library,
Room 21, Legislative Bldg. Regina, Sask.
Associate-Secretary: Mr. Claude Aubry, Ottawa Public Library
Councillors: Miss W. Barnstead, Miss M. Mercier,
Miss S. Egoff, B. Amtmann, B. Peel,
and N. Harlow.

This report was seconded by Mr. Pennington and carried.

Dr. Lamb then turned the meeting over to the new President, Dr. Louis Blake Duff, who spoke briefly on what he hoped the Society could accomplish in the coming year.

The meeting was then adjourned.

A DIGEST OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Special Items or Collections of Canadiana Recently Acquired:

L'INFLUENCE D'UN LIVRE, Ph. Aubert De Gaspé (1814-1941). First, French Canadian novel. First edition, 1837. (D. M. Hayne, Dept. of French, University College, Toronto.)

CANADENSUM PLANTARUM, Iac Cornuti. Paris: Le Moyne, 1635.
J. Russell Harper, The New Brunswick Museum.)

ON THE TIMER TRADE, Henry Bliss (1797-1873). London, 1831.

CIVIL WAR IN THE CANADAS. London, 1838. Two parts of 96 pp. each. In Archives, Ottawa, and in the British Museum. Very rare.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE CANADA. London, 1838. Three parts of 96 pp. each. B.M. has two parts and did not know there was more until our parts turned up. (R.D. Hilton Smith, Toronto Public Library.)

HISTORY OF MONTREAL, a MS by Henry Mott. Not believed to be the fruit of original research. (R. Pennington, McGill University.)

GRAMMAR OF THE CREE LANGUAGE, Joseph Howse. London, 1844. Had belonged to Rev. Wm. Mason, one of the principal translators of the Bible into Cree in the 1850's. His sig. appears on title-page and at beginning of intro. Volume has been rebound with blank pages interleaved, on which words and phrases in Cree syllabics have been written. (Bruce Peel, Rutherford Library, Univ. of Alta.)

Numerous books, manuscripts, pamphlets, journals, etc., added to the Edith and Lorne Pierce Collection of Canadiana. (H.P. Gundy, Queen's University, Kingston.)

CANADA AND ITS PROVINCES, edited by Adam Shortt and Arthur G. Doughty. Excellent condition. Toronto, 1917. (Grace St. Lewis, 6 Lewis Ave., Yarmouth, N.S.)

COSTUMES DES COMMUNANTES DE FEMMES AU CANADA IN 1853, Jacques Viger. with frontis. and 17 original watercolours by John Duncan. An exact copy is in the Vatican Library. (Montreal City Library.)

SKETCHES AND TALES ILLUSTRATIVE OF LIFE IN THE BACKWOODS OF NEW BRUNSWICK, NORTH AMERICA, Mrs. F. Beaven. London: George Routledge, 1845. (A. Robert Rogers, Bonar Law-Bennett Library, Univ. of N.B., Fredericton.)

Many rare works of Canadiana have been purchased by Quebec Province from Dr. Cypihot. (F. Guilbault, 1145 St. Vialleur St., Montreal 8.)

Important Items or Collections Acquired Other Than Canadiana:

THESAURUS LINGUE GRAECAE, Estieuvre. First edition, 1572. (F. Guilbault, 1145 St. Vialleur St., Montreal 8.)

SIR E.K. CHAMBERS SHAKESPEARE COLLECTION.

CLEVELAND MORGAN COLLECTION of First Editions of Famous 18th Century Books.

WILLIAM BLAKE COLLECTION.

NAPOLEON COLLECTION of Books, and Prints.

MS material for a projected Life of MADAME JULIETTE ADAM. (Richard Pennington, McGill University.)

R.R. GONSETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY, books in Ukrainian, relating to Ukrainians and to the Ukraine. The original gift was given in 1951, and each year Miss Irene Gonsett of Hollywood, Calif., has given additional money for further purchases.

MEMOIRES DE LA COMITE GEOLOGIQUE DE LA RUSSE. (Bruce Peel, Rutherford Library, Univ. of Alta.)

JOHN BUCHAN MEMORIAL COLLECTION (H. P. Gundy, Queen's University, Kingston.)

THE SPECTATOR in miniature, v. 1 & 2. Exeter: I & B. Williams, 1842. Full lea. excellent condition.

FRIENDSHIP'S OFFERING. Boston: Phillips & Sampson, 1849. Full red tooled lea. gilt edge.

THE GEM ANNUAL, 1855. Philadelphia: E. H. Butler. Full black tooled lea. gilt edge. (Grace S. Lewis, 6 Lewis Ave., Yarmouth, N. S.).

The Following Are Among the Smaller Special Collections in the Toronto Reference Library:

A collection of 108 editions of Samuel Johnson's RASSELAS, including the first edition and all significant editions since.

A collection of 26 editions of L. Hemon's MARIA CHAPDELAINE.

A collection illustrating THE HISTORY AND ART OF PRINTING, which includes representative samples of such early printers as Aldus, Elzevir, Bodoni, Plantin, The Foulis Press, and others, and also good examples of all or most of the modern private presses such as Ashendene, Doves, Golden Cockerel, Grabhorn, Gregynog, Kelmscott, Nonesuch and Vale. Among the Kelmscott volumes is an extremely interesting copy of WILLIAM MORRIS'S "A note on his aims..." which has been inlaid to form a folio volume of 290 leaves and extra illustrated with copies of nearly all the original prospectuses, together with specimen leaves of most of the books, letters from Morris and others, portraits of Morris and some of the authors published by the press, as well as other background material.

(R. D. Hilton Smith, Toronto Public Library.)

The following bibliographies or check lists have been completed or are in preparation:

CANADIAN BOOKPRICES CURRENT (1950-1955) In preparation.

QUEBEC and ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS 1763-1841; 1867-1940. (Robert M. Hamilton, Library of Parliament, Ottawa.)

Bibliography of the FRENCH CANADIAN NOVEL. (Nearing completion)
(D. M. Hayne, Dept. of French, University College, Toronto.)

NEW BRUNSWICK NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS. In preparation.
(J. Russell Harper, N. B. Museum, Saint John, N. B.).

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS BY NEW BRUNSWICK WRITERS, 1890-1950. (1953)
(A. Robert Rogers, Bonar Law-Bennett Library, Univ. of N. B.)

Revised Bibliography of Lahontan. (A. H. Greenly, 901 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.).

New and greatly enlarged edition of the GUIDE TO CANADIAN MSS IN THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY. Pub. at end of 1954. (R. D. Hilton Smith, Toronto Public Library.)

MELANCHTHONIANA IN CANADIAN LIBRARIES. (In preparation (William Hammer, Prof. of German, Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.))

Bibliography of JOHN RICHARDSON, pub. in Douglas Library Notes, Vol. 3, No. 3, May, 1954. (H. P. Gundy, Queen's University. Kingston.)

Bibliography of STEPHEN LEACOCK, 1954. National Library of Canada. (Gerhard R. Lomer, 3698 Parc Lafontaine, Montreal.)

Members have suggested the following as suitable - and many of these have been suggested by more than one member.

1. Bibliographies of local and county histories, by provinces, issued separately.
2. Index to Canadian biography.
3. Bibliography of Canadian genealogy.
4. Bibliographies of English and French Canadian poetry in the 20th Century.
5. Studies of Canadian publishing houses and presses.
6. Bibliographies of William Hamilton Merritt, Haliburton, Sir Charles G.D. Roberts, Mazo de la Roche, Moses H. Nickerson.
7. Check Lists of provincial government documents issued for each of the provinces similar to those issued by British Columbia and Saskatchewan.
8. Index to the Canadian material appearing in general magazines and periodicals before the period when such cumulative indexes as the Poole and Wilson publications became available.
9. Analysis of and index to the Canadian periodical press for the periods when cumulative indexing was non-existent or inadequate.
10. Bibliography of pre-Confederation travel books relating to Canada.
11. A catalogue of 16th Century imprints.
12. A list of all books and booklets (including fiction) published in Canada in languages other than English and French.

Members have suggested the following as being worthy printing or reprinting:

Mackenzie's CAROLINE ALMANAC.

FRANCHERE. (The original text was never edited. Bibaud modified it).

The controversial pamphlets on the North-west Coast and B.C. affairs by ELWOOD EVANS. These are very scarce and interesting, especially "The Re-Annexation of British Columbia to the United States, Right, Proper and Desirable" (Olympia, Washington Territory, 1870).

An anthology of EARLY CANADIAN POETRY (much of it previously almost unknown) produced, with many facsimiles, by Mr. L.A. Lande.

Collection of the DUKE OF RICHMOND and the MASERES papers concerning Canada from 1759-1774, edited by Mr. L.A. Lande. One typescript copy exists in the McGill Library.

The MASSON Papers at McGill.

The MS relating to THE BEAVER CLUB in the McCord Museum.

Bibliography of FRENCH CANADIAN LITERATURE by Dr. Dover Hayne.

The O.P. pamphlet on the RUNIC STONE (of Yarmouth, N.S.).

Personalia:

Members will regret to hear of the death of Dr. J. L. Johnston, Manitoba's Provincial Librarian, who passed away in Winnipeg on February 1st, 1955.

Members will be interested to hear that Dr. W. S. Wallace, past-president of the Society, who recently retired from the position of Librarian of the University of Toronto, has taken over the well-known bookstore in Toronto called the DORA HOOD BOOKROOM, 720 Spadina Avenue.

THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Newsletter will contain a descriptive article on the Coleridge Collection at Victoria University and on the recent discovery of a copy of No. 1 of The Halifax Gazette, the first newspaper published in Canada.

THE RYERSON IMPRINT

A Check-list of the Books and Pamphlets
published by The Ryerson Press since the
foundation of the House in 1829.

Compiled by W. Stewart Wallace

Members may receive this imprint free upon
application to The Ryerson Press, 299 Queen
Street West, Toronto 2B, Ontario.